

Application No. 09/663,793
Reply to Office Action of January 16, 2004

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Amendments to the Specification:

On page 17, replace the paragraph beginning at line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

Once the Negotiating State 14 is completed, the neighbouring peer nodes will receive Database Summary packets from the node in question during the Exchanging State 16. Thus, the Negotiation Done event 15 will transition the Finite State Machine 40 5 to the Exchanging State 16. As already known in the PNNI protocol, in the Exchanging State 16 the node in question describes its topology database to the neighbouring node. Once the neighbouring node has processed the Database Summary packets, it can then proceed to request its required PTSE information. If such information is required, the Exchange Done event 17 will transition the Finite State Machine 5 to the Loading State 18.

On page 24, replace the paragraph beginning at line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

Whenever a Loading (in Full) Done event 27 is injected while the Finite State Machine 10 resides in its Loading in Full State 24, the state machine will transition to the Full State 20. This event associated with the Loading in Full State 24 is termed the Loading (in Full) Done event in Figure 4 3 to distinguish the event from its counterpart taking place during the Loading State 18.

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